

**CLAIMS**

1. Network status reporting method, for reporting in a communications network a network status to a data source (DSRC) with an adaptive transmission rate in order to enable said data source (DSRC) to adapt said transmission rate based on said network status, said communications network further containing at least one intermediate network node (INN), and a data sink (DSNK), **CHARACTERISED IN THAT** only said data sink (DSNK) reports to said data source (DSRC) on a status of said communications network in its neighbourhood, and no intermediate network node (INN) reports to said data source (DSRC) on said network status of said communications network.

2. Communications network comprising at least one data source (DSRC) with an adaptive transmission rate, at least one intermediate node and at least one data sink (DSNK), said data source (DSRC) being able to adapt said transmission rate on the basis of network status information, **CHARACTERISED IN THAT** only said data sink (DSNK) is able to report said network status information of said communications network in its neighbourhood to said data source (DSRC) and no intermediate node is able to report network status information to said data source (DSRC).

3. Communications network, according to claim 2, **CHARACTERISED IN THAT** said data sink (DCSNK) is a line termination in an access network of said communications network.

4. Communications network, according to claim 2, **CHARACTERISED IN THAT** said data sink (DCSNK) is a network termination in an access network of said communications network.

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5. Communications network, according to claim 3 or claim 4,  
**CHARACTERISED IN THAT** said network status is a capacity of a link between  
a network termination and a line termination in said access network of said  
communications network.

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6. Data source (DSRC) adapted to be used in the communications  
network according to claim 2.

7. Data sink (DSNK) adapted to be used in the communications  
10 network according to claim 2.

8. Data source (DCSRC) according to claim 6, **CHARACTERISED**  
**IN THAT** said data-source (CSRC) is adapted to request said data sink (DSNK)  
to report to said data source (DCSRC) on said network status of said  
15 communications network.

9. Data sink (DSNK) according to claim 7, **CHARACTERISED IN**  
**THAT** said data sink (DSNK) is adapted to regularly report to said data source  
(DSRC) on said network status of said communications network.

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